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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

15 February 1949

AIR INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS
MEMORANDUM NUMBER 4

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

PART I - GENERAL

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is twofold:

a. To enunciate continuing Air Force requirements for information pertaining to sightings of unconventional aircraft and unidentified flying objects, including the so-called "Flying Discs."

b. To establish procedures for reporting such information.

2. RESCISSION

Department of the Army Collection Memorandum Number 7, dated 21 January 1948, and letter, CSGID 425.1, dated 25 March 1948, both subject as above, which have been transferred to Air Force agencies for action, are herewith superseded.

3. REPORTING

a. General

(1) As complete an answer to the requirements enunciated in Part II, as may be procurable, should be dispatched by means of electrical transmission immediately after sightings.

(2) Supplementary reports should be forwarded as available by the most expeditious means consistent with the importance of the information reported.

b. Major Air Commands (Overseas) and Air Attaches

(1) Initial and supplementary cabled reports will be transmitted to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force. Cables will contain the phase, "Pass to COMGENAMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON, OHIO, ATTN: MCIAXO-3."

additional copies behind file.

62-83894-164

ENCLOSURE

C9-4892, AF

(2) Supplementary written reports, prepared on AF Form 112, will be forwarded to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force.

(3) Commanding General, Air Materiel Command is authorized direct contact with major Air Commands (overseas) and organizations under their control in connection with the development of information on this subject.

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(1) Reports will be forwarded direct to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: MCIAXO-3 by installations receiving information pertaining to the requirements enunciated in Part II.

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(3) A copy of all reports sent to Air Materiel Command in accordance with these instructions will be forwarded at the same time to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force.

(4) Written reports will be submitted on AF Form 112.

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PART II - REQUIREMENTS

General

1. Date of sighting.

2. Time of sighting (zonal by 24 hr. clock).

3. Where sighted (observer's position):

   a. Ground

      (1) City, town.

      (2) Distance and direction from city or town, road, intersection, etc.

      (3) From building (story), yard, etc.

      (4) Map coordinates (if feasible) showing latitude and longitude.

b. Air

(1) Type aircraft, speed, altitude, direction of flight.

(2) Distance and direction from city, town or known landmark.

(3) Clock position of object from observer's aircraft.

(4) Latitude and longitude.

c. Sea

(1) Latitude and longitude.

(2) Proximity to land. (Name city, country, etc.)

4. Number of objects.

Formation type (if any), sketch if possible.

5. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting. (Local facilities or organizations which follow such celestial phenomena should be consulted for such information.)

6. Distance of object from observer.

a. Laterally or horizontally.

b. Angle of elevation from horizon.

c. Altitude.

7. Time in sight.

8. Appearance of object.

a. Color.

b. Shape. (Sketch if possible)

c. Apparent construction. (Of what material or substance)

d. Size.

(1) Estimated size.

(2) Size as it appeared from observer's view. (Compared to known object)

9. Direction of flight.

10. Tactics or maneuvers.

Vertical ascent or descent, horizontal, oscillating, fluttering, evasive, aggressive, erratic, etc.

11. Evidence of exhaust.

a. Color of smoke.

b. Length and width.

c. Odor (if any).

d. Rate of evaporation.

e. Does trail vary with sound? (spurts)

12. Effect on clouds.

a. Opened path thru clouds.

b. Forced cloud or mists.

c. Reflected on cloud.

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13. Lights.

a. Reflected or attached.

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c. Blinked on and off in relation to speed.

14. Support

a. Wings.

b. Aerodynamic list of fuselage.

c. Vertical jet.

d. Rotating cylinder or cone.

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a. Propeller or jet.

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16. Control and stability.

a. Fins

b. Stabilizers (horizontal or vertical).

(1) Size.

(2) Shape.

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17. Air ducts.
    a. Slots.
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18. Speed - M.P.H.
19. Sound.
    a. Continuous whine or buzz.
    b. Roar, whistle, whoosh.
    c. Intermittent.
20. Manner of disappearance.
    a. Explode.
        (1) Possibility of fragments.
        (2) Other physical evidence.
    b. Faded from view.
    c. Disappeared behind obstacle.

Relative to the Observer

1. Name of observer.
2. Address.
3. Occupation.
4. Place of business.
    a. Employer or employee.
5. Pertinent hobbies.
    a. Is observer amateur astronomer, pilot, engineer, etc.
    b. Length of time engaged in hobby (experience).
6. Ability to determine:
    a. Color.
    b. Speed of moving objects.
    c. Size at distance.
7. Reliability of observer.
    a. Sources.

(1) Neighbors.

(2) Police Dept.

(3) FBI records.

(4) Employer.

8. Notes relative to observer on:

a. Sightings in general.

b. How attention was drawn to object(s).

(1) Sound.

(2) Motion.

(3) Glint of light.

c. Degree of fatigue and duration of flight at time of sighting in cases where observer is airborne.

9. Witnesses.

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10. Comments of interrogator regarding the intelligence and character of person interrogated.

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1. Re radars operating on ground.

a. Observations of range, speed, altitude and size of target.

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c. Note particularly any separation of distant target into several targets upon approach. Track all if possible.

2. If airborne when object sighted.

a. Were there any radar inductions or extra noise on radio circuits?

b. Give estimates of size, speed, maneuvers, etc.

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions.

2. Winds aloft report.

3. Local flight schedules of commercial, private and military aircraft flying in vicinity at the time. (Check Canadian activity if close to that border.)

4. Possible releases of testing devices in vicinity sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Air Force, Army, Weather Units, Research Organizations or any other.

5. If object contacted earth, obtain soil samples within and without depression or spot where object landed (and then presumably departed) for purpose of making comparison of soils.

6. If object came sufficiently near other aircraft or known objects check surfaces with Geiger counters for possible radioactivity. Make comparisons with other unaffected aircraft objects, etc.

7. Obtain photographs (or original negatives) where available; if not, secure sketches of:

   a. Object.

   b. Surrounding terrain where observed.

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   d. Maneuvers.

   e. Formation if objects were more than two.

8. Secure signed statement.

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10. Was any radio antenna to be observed, i.e., (any projections or extentions that might presumably be construed as such).

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General

1. Date of sighting.

2. Time of sighting (zonal by 24 hr. clock).

3. Where sighted (observer's position):

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      (1) City, town.

      (2) Distance and direction from city or town, road, intersection, etc.

      (3) From building (story), yard, etc.

      (4) Map coordinates (if feasible) showing latitude and longitude.

b. Air

(1) Type aircraft, speed, altitude, direction of flight.

(2) Distance and direction from city, town or known landmark.

(3) Clock position of object from observer's aircraft.

(4) Latitude and longitude.

c. Sea

(1) Latitude and longitude.

(2) Proximity to land. (Name city, country, etc.)

4. Number of objects.

Formation type (if any), sketch if possible.

5. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting. (Local facilities or organizations which follow such celestial phenomena should be consulted for such information.)

6. Distance of object from observer.

a. Laterally or horizontally.

b. Angle of elevation from horizon.

c. Altitude.

7. Time in sight.

8. Appearance of object.

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b. Shape. (Sketch if possible)

c. Apparent construction. (Of what material or substance)

d. Size.

(1) Estimated size.

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9. Direction of flight.

10. Tactics or maneuvers.

Vertical ascent or descent, horizontal, oscillating, fluttering, evasive, aggressive, erratic, etc.

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a. Color of smoke.

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Relative to the Observer

1. Name of observer.
2. Address.
3. Occupation.
4. Place of business.
    a. Employer or employee.
5. Pertinent hobbies.
    a. Is observer amateur astronomer, pilot, engineer, etc.
    b. Length of time engaged in hobby (experience).
6. Ability to determine:
    a. Color.
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    a. Sources.

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b. How attention was drawn to object(s).

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5. If object contacted earth, obtain soil samples within and without depression or spot where object landed (and then presumably departed) for purpose of making comparison of soils.

6. If object came sufficiently near other aircraft or known objects check surfaces with Geiger counters for possible radioactivity. Make comparisons with other unaffected aircraft objects, etc.

7. Obtain photographs (or original negatives) where available; if not, secure sketches of:

   a. Object.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

15 February 1949

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UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

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The purpose of this memorandum is twofold:

a. To enunciate continuing Air Force requirements for information pertaining to sightings of unconventional aircraft and unidentified flying objects, including the so-called "Flying Discs."

b. To establish procedures for reporting such information.

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Department of the Army Collection Memorandum Number 7, dated 21 January 1948, and letter, CSGID 425.1, dated 25 March 1948, both subject as above, which have been transferred to Air Force agencies for action, are herewith superseded.

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(1) As complete an answer to the requirements enunciated in Part II, as may be procurable, should be dispatched by means of electrical transmission immediately after sightings.

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(1) Initial and supplementary cabled reports will be transmitted to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force. Cables will contain the phase, "Pass to COMGENAMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON, OHIO, ATTN: MCIAXO-3."

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    a. Explode.
        (1) Possibility of fragments.
        (2) Other physical evidence.
    b. Faded from view.
    c. Disappeared behind obstacle.

Relative to the Observer

1. Name of observer.
2. Address.
3. Occupation.
4. Place of business.
    a. Employer or employee.
5. Pertinent hobbies.
    a. Is observer amateur astronomer, pilot, engineer, etc.
    b. Length of time engaged in hobby (experience).
6. Ability to determine:
    a. Color.
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    a. Sources.

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c. Note particularly any separation of distant target into several targets upon approach. Track all if possible.

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2. Winds aloft report.

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5. If object contacted earth, obtain soil samples within and without depression or spot where object landed (and then presumably departed) for purpose of making comparison of soils.

6. If object came sufficiently near other aircraft or known objects check surfaces with Geiger counters for possible radioactivity. Make comparisons with other unaffected aircraft objects, etc.

7. Obtain photographs (or original negatives) where available; if not, secure sketches of:

   a. Object.

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8. Secure signed statement.

9. Obtain fragments or physical evidence where possible.

10. Was any radio antenna to be observed, i.e., (any projections or extentions that might presumably be construed as such).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

15 February 1949

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a. To enunciate continuing Air Force requirements for information pertaining to sightings of unconventional aircraft and unidentified flying objects, including the so-called "Flying Discs."

b. To establish procedures for reporting such information.

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a. General

(1) As complete an answer to the requirements enunciated in Part II, as may be procurable, should be dispatched by means of electrical transmission immediately after sightings.

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b. Major Air Commands (Overseas) and Air Attaches

(1) Initial and supplementary cabled reports will be transmitted to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force. Cables will contain the phase, "Pass to COMGENAMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON, OHIO, ATTN: MCIAXO-3."

C9-4892,AF

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      (2) Distance and direction from city or town, road, intersection, etc.

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      (4) Map coordinates (if feasible) showing latitude and longitude.

b. Air

(1) Type aircraft, speed, altitude, direction of flight.

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(3) Clock position of object from observer's aircraft.

(4) Latitude and longitude.

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(1) Latitude and longitude.

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4. Number of objects.

Formation type (if any), sketch if possible.

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        (2) Other physical evidence.
    b. Faded from view.
    c. Disappeared behind obstacle.

Relative to the Observer

1. Name of observer.
2. Address.
3. Occupation.
4. Place of business.
    a. Employer or employee.
5. Pertinent hobbies.
    a. Is observer amateur astronomer, pilot, engineer, etc.
    b. Length of time engaged in hobby (experience).
6. Ability to determine:
    a. Color.
    b. Speed of moving objects.
    c. Size at distance.
7. Reliability of observer.
    a. Sources.

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a. Sightings in general.

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a. Observations of range, speed, altitude and size of target.

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5. If object contacted earth, obtain soil samples within and without depression or spot where object landed (and then presumably departed) for purpose of making comparison of soils.

6. If object came sufficiently near other aircraft or known objects check surfaces with Geiger counters for possible radioactivity. Make comparisons with other unaffected aircraft objects, etc.

7. Obtain photographs (or original negatives) where available; if not, secure sketches of:

   a. Object.

   b. Surrounding terrain where observed.

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   d. Maneuvers.

   e. Formation if objects were more than two.

8. Secure signed statement.

9. Obtain fragments or physical evidence where possible.

10. Was any radio antenna to be observed, i.e., (any projections or extentions that might presumably be construed as such).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

15 February 1949

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(1) As complete an answer to the requirements enunciated in Part II, as may be procurable, should be dispatched by means of electrical transmission immediately after sightings.

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      (2) Distance and direction from city or town, road, intersection, etc.

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      (4) Map coordinates (if feasible) showing latitude and longitude.

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(1) Type aircraft, speed, altitude, direction of flight.

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(3) Clock position of object from observer's aircraft.

(4) Latitude and longitude.

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(1) Latitude and longitude.

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4. Number of objects.

Formation type (if any), sketch if possible.

5. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting. (Local facilities or organizations which follow such celestial phenomena should be consulted for such information.)

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9. Obtain fragments or physical evidence where possible.

10. Was any radio antenna to be observed, i.e., (any projections or extentions that might presumably be construed as such).

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

15 February 1949

AIR INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS
MEMORANDUM NUMBER 4

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

PART I - GENERAL

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is twofold:

a. To enunciate continuing Air Force requirements for information pertaining to sightings of unconventional aircraft and unidentified flying objects, including the so-called "Flying Discs."

b. To establish procedures for reporting such information.

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General

1. Date of sighting.

2. Time of sighting (zonal by 24 hr. clock).

3. Where sighted (observer's position):

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      (1) City, town.

      (2) Distance and direction from city or town, road, intersection, etc.

      (3) From building (story), yard, etc.

      (4) Map coordinates (if feasible) showing latitude and longitude.

b. Air

(1) Type aircraft, speed, altitude, direction of flight.

(2) Distance and direction from city, town or known landmark.

(3) Clock position of object from observer's aircraft.

(4) Latitude and longitude.

c. Sea

(1) Latitude and longitude.

(2) Proximity to land. (Name city, country, etc.)

4. Number of objects.

Formation type (if any), sketch if possible.

5. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting. (Local facilities or organizations which follow such celestial phenomena should be consulted for such information.)

6. Distance of object from observer.

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b. Angle of elevation from horizon.

c. Altitude.

7. Time in sight.

8. Appearance of object.

a. Color.

b. Shape. (Sketch if possible)

c. Apparent construction. (Of what material or substance)

d. Size.

(1) Estimated size.

(2) Size as it appeared from observer's view. (Compared to known object)

9. Direction of flight.

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Vertical ascent or descent, horizontal, oscillating, fluttering, evasive, aggressive, erratic, etc.

11. Evidence of exhaust.

a. Color of smoke.

b. Length and width.

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Relative to the Observer

1. Name of observer.
2. Address.
3. Occupation.
4. Place of business.
    a. Employer or employee.
5. Pertinent hobbies.
    a. Is observer amateur astronomer, pilot, engineer, etc.
    b. Length of time engaged in hobby (experience).
6. Ability to determine:
    a. Color.
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7. Reliability of observer.
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8. Notes relative to observer on:

a. Sightings in general.

b. How attention was drawn to object(s).

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3. REPORTING

a. General

(1) As complete an answer to the requirements enunciated in Part II, as may be procurable, should be dispatched by means of electrical transmission immediately after sightings.

(2) Supplementary reports should be forwarded as available by the most expeditious means consistent with the importance of the information reported.

b. Major Air Commands (Overseas) and Air Attaches

(1) Initial and supplementary cabled reports will be transmitted to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force. Cables will contain the phase, "Pass to COMGENAMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON, OHIO, ATTN: MCIAXO-3."

(2) Supplementary written reports, prepared on AF Form 112, will be forwarded to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force.

(3) Commanding General, Air Materiel Command is authorized direct contact with major Air Commands (overseas) and organizations under their control in connection with the development of information on this subject.

c. Major Air Commands (ZI)

(1) Reports will be forwarded direct to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: MCIAXO-3 by installations receiving information pertaining to the requirements enunciated in Part II.

(2) Copies of such reports may be supplied the Command Headquarters of the installation concerned.

(3) A copy of all reports sent to Air Materiel Command in accordance with these instructions will be forwarded at the same time to the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters United States Air Force.

(4) Written reports will be submitted on AF Form 112.

(5) Commanding General, Air Materiel Command is authorized direct contact with major Air Commands (ZI) and organizations under their control in connection with the development of information on this subject.

d. Non-Air Force Agencies

(1) Addressees other than those of the United States Air Force are requested to forward reports direct to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: MCIAXO-3.

(2) In order to reduce the time factor involved in transmission of this type of information it is requested that, wherever communications facilities permit, subordinate elements be authorized to communicate reports direct to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command.

PART II - REQUIREMENTS

General

1. Date of sighting.

2. Time of sighting (zonal by 24 hr. clock).

3. Where sighted (observer's position):

   a. Ground

      (1) City, town.

      (2) Distance and direction from city or town, road, intersection, etc.

      (3) From building (story), yard, etc.

      (4) Map coordinates (if feasible) showing latitude and longitude.

b. Air

(1) Type aircraft, speed, altitude, direction of flight.

(2) Distance and direction from city, town or known landmark.

(3) Clock position of object from observer's aircraft.

(4) Latitude and longitude.

c. Sea

(1) Latitude and longitude.

(2) Proximity to land. (Name city, country, etc.)

4. Number of objects.

Formation type (if any), sketch if possible.

5. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting. (Local facilities or organizations which follow such celestial phenomena should be consulted for such information.)

6. Distance of object from observer.

a. Laterally or horizontally.

b. Angle of elevation from horizon.

c. Altitude.

7. Time in sight.

8. Appearance of object.

a. Color.

b. Shape. (Sketch if possible)

c. Apparent construction. (Of what material or substance)

d. Size.

(1) Estimated size.

(2) Size as it appeared from observer's view. (Compared to known object)

9. Direction of flight.

10. Tactics or maneuvers.

Vertical ascent or descent, horizontal, oscillating, fluttering, evasive, aggressive, erratic, etc.

11. Evidence of exhaust.

a. Color of smoke.

b. Length and width.

c. Odor (if any).

d. Rate of evaporation.

e. Does trail vary with sound? (spurts)

12. Effect on clouds.

a. Opened path thru clouds.

b. Forced cloud or mists.

c. Reflected on cloud.

d. Showed thru cloud.

13. Lights.

a. Reflected or attached.

b. Luminous

c. Blinked on and off in relation to speed.

14. Support

a. Wings.

b. Aerodynamic list of fuselage.

c. Vertical jet.

d. Rotating cylinder or cone.

e. Aerostatic lift (balloon or dirigible).

15. Propulsion.

a. Propeller or jet.

b. Rotor.

c. Aerodynamic vanes (flapping or oscillating) (Katz Mayer effect).

d. Visible exhaust or jet openings.

16. Control and stability.

a. Fins

b. Stabilizers (horizontal or vertical).

(1) Size.

(2) Shape.

(3) Location.

17. Air ducts.
    a. Slots.
    b. Duct openings.
18. Speed - M.P.H.
19. Sound.
    a. Continuous whine or buzz.
    b. Roar, whistle, whoosh.
    c. Intermittent.
20. Manner of disappearance.
    a. Explode.
        (1) Possibility of fragments.
        (2) Other physical evidence.
    b. Faded from view.
    c. Disappeared behind obstacle.

Relative to the Observer

1. Name of observer.
2. Address.
3. Occupation.
4. Place of business.
    a. Employer or employee.
5. Pertinent hobbies.
    a. Is observer amateur astronomer, pilot, engineer, etc.
    b. Length of time engaged in hobby (experience).
6. Ability to determine:
    a. Color.
    b. Speed of moving objects.
    c. Size at distance.
7. Reliability of observer.
    a. Sources.

(1) Neighbors.

(2) Police Dept.

(3) FBI records.

(4) Employer.

8. Notes relative to observer on:

a. Sightings in general.

b. How attention was drawn to object(s).

(1) Sound.

(2) Motion.

(3) Glint of light.

c. Degree of fatigue and duration of flight at time of sighting in cases where observer is airborne.

9. Witnesses.

a. Addressees.

b. Occupation.

c. Reliability.

10. Comments of interrogator regarding the intelligence and character of person interrogated.

Relative to Radar Sightings

1. Re radars operating on ground.

a. Observations of range, speed, altitude and size of target.

b. Did target executive any turns? If so, what angle (180°), etc. and what radius of turn. If radius of turn is not observable, how long did the target stay in the turn and what was its speed?

c. Note particularly any separation of distant target into several targets upon approach. Track all if possible.

2. If airborne when object sighted.

a. Were there any radar inductions or extra noise on radio circuits?

b. Give estimates of size, speed, maneuvers, etc.

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions.

2. Winds aloft report.

3. Local flight schedules of commercial, private and military aircraft flying in vicinity at the time. (Check Canadian activity if close to that border.)

4. Possible releases of testing devices in vicinity sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Air Force, Army, Weather Units, Research Organizations or any other.

5. If object contacted earth, obtain soil samples within and without depression or spot where object landed (and then presumably departed) for purpose of making comparison of soils.

6. If object came sufficiently near other aircraft or known objects check surfaces with Geiger counters for possible radioactivity. Make comparisons with other unaffected aircraft objects, etc.

7. Obtain photographs (or original negatives) where available; if not, secure sketches of:

   a. Object.

   b. Surrounding terrain where observed.

   c. Place where it contacted earth (if this happened).

   d. Maneuvers.

   e. Formation if objects were more than two.

8. Secure signed statement.

9. Obtain fragments or physical evidence where possible.

10. Was any radio antenna to be observed, i.e., (any projections or extentions that might presumably be construed as such).

C. P. Cabell

C. P. CABELL
Major General, USAF
Director of Intelligence, Office of
Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations

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